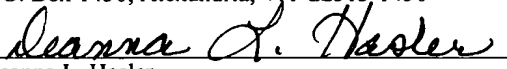


"Express Mail" mailing label number EV227730785US
Date of Deposit: February 5, 2004
I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the
United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to
Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated
above and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents,
P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450


Deanna L. Hasler

Our Case No.: 10707/016

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of)
Barry Davignon) Group Art Unit Not Yet Assigned
Serial No.: Not Yet Assigned) Examiner: Not Yet Assigned
Filed: Herewith)
For: SUTURING METHOD AND APPARATUS)
Our Reference: 10707/016)

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

MAIL STOP PATENT APPLICATION
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, it is respectfully
requested that this Information Disclosure Statement be entered and the documents listed below and
on the attached Form PTO-1449 be considered by the Examiner and made of record. Only copies
of the listed documents required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2) are enclosed for the convenience of the
Examiner. The references now cited are the following:

No.	Date	Name
2002/0087172 A1	07/04/2002	Kalinski et al.
6,558,416 B2	05/06/2003	Cosgrove et al.
5,935,149	08/10/1999	Ek
5,824,010	10/20/1998	McDonald
5,746,757	05/05/1998	McGuire
5,730,747	03/24/1998	Ek et al.
5,391,174	02/21/1995	Weston
5,222,962	06/29/1993	Burkhart
4,724,838	02/16/1988	Hasson

No.	Date	Name
4,345,601	08/24/1982	Fukuda
4,312,337	01/26/1982	Donohue
1,449,087	03/20/1923	Bugbee
WO 94/28801	12/22/1994	Karl Storz GmbH & Co.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g),(h), this Information Disclosure Statement is not to be construed as a representation that a search has been made and is not to be construed to be an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(b).

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed prior to the receipt of the first Official Action reflecting an examination on the merits and hence is believed to be timely filed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b). No fees are believed to be due in connection with filing of this Information Disclosure Statement, however, should any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 to 1.21 be deemed necessary for any reason relating to these material, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to deduct said fees from Brinks Hofer Gilson & Lione Deposit Account No. 23-1925.

Applicant(s) respectfully request that the listed documents be made of record in the present case.

Respectfully submitted,



A. James Richardson
Attorney Reg. No. 26,983

BRINKS HOFER GILSON & LIONE
One Indiana Square, Suite 1600
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204
Telephone: 317-636-0886
Facsimile: 317-634-6701

FORM PTO-1449	SERIAL NO. Not Yet Assigned	CASE NO. 10707/016
LIST OF PATENTS AND PUBLICATIONS FOR APPLICANT'S INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT	FILING DATE Herewith	GROUP ART UNIT Not Yet Assigned
(use several sheets if necessary)		APPLICANT(S): Barry Davignon

REFERENCE DESIGNATION U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER <small>Number-Kind Code (if known)</small>	DATE	NAME	CLASS/ SUBCLASS	FILING DATE
	A1	2002/0087172 A1	07/04/2002	Kalinski et al.	606/148	12/29/2000
	A2	6,558,416 B2	05/06/2003	Cosgrove et al.	623/2.11	05/06/2001
	A3	5,935,149	08/10/1999	Ek	606/232	08/21/1997
	A4	5,824,010	10/20/1998	McDonald	606/148	05/23/1996
	A5	5,746,757	05/05/1998	McGuire	606/148	01/17/1997
	A6	5,730,747	03/24/1998	Ek et al.	606/148	02/22/1996
	A7	5,391,174	02/21/1995	Weston	606/148	11/29/1991
	A8	5,222,962	06/29/1993	Burkhart	606/148	04/23/1992
	A9	4,724,838	02/16/1988	Hasson	128/321	10/01/1986
	A10	4,345,601	08/24/1982	Fukuda	128/339	04/07/1980
	A11	4,312,337	01/26/1982	Donohue	128/92	09/08/1980
	A12	1,449,087	03/20/1923	Bugbee	606/144	12/03/1921
	A13					

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER <small>Number-Kind Code (if known)</small>	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS/ SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES OR NO
	A14	WO 94/28801	12/22/1994	WIPO	A61B 17/04	No - except Abstract
	A15					
	A16					

EXAMINER INITIAL	OTHER ART – NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS <small>(Include name of author, title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.</small>					
	A17					
	A18					
	A19					
	A20					
	A21					
	A22					

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
----------	-----------------

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.